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CLAIMS

1 A construction material for use as, or in, a wearing course, which comprises an agglomerate of granules of a thermoplastic elastomer.

2. A construction material according to Claim 1, wherein the granules are angular or multi-facet granules.

3. A construction material according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the granules have smooth surfaces.

4. A construction material according to Claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein the granules are substantially free from dust.

5. A construction material according to any of ^{claim 1} ~~claims 1 to 4~~, wherein substantially all of the granules are in the size range from 0.5mm to 10mm.

6. A construction material according to Claim 5, wherein substantially all of the granules are in the size range from 1mm to 4mm.

7. A construction material according to ^{claim 1} ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is a block copolymer.

8. A construction material ~~/~~ according to Claim 7, wherein the

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block copolymer is of the styrene type.

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9. A construction material according to ^{claim 1} ~~any of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is one or more of:

a styrene-butadiene-styrene (SBS) block co-polymer.

a styrene-isoprene-styrene (SIS) block copolymer,

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a styrene-ethylene-butadiene-styrene (SEBS) block copolymer.

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10. A construction material according to any of ^{claim 1} ~~Claims 1 to 9~~, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is a polyurethane, polyetherester, polyamide, polyetheramide or an elastomeric alloy.

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11. A construction material according to ^{claim 1} ~~any of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~, which includes a pigment.

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12. A construction material, according to ^{claim 1} ~~any of the preceding~~ ~~claims~~, wherein the granules are agglomerated together by means of a binder, for example a polyurethane binder.

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13. A construction material according to Claim 12, wherein the binder substantially fills the interstices between the granules.

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claim 1
14. A construction material, according to any of ~~claims 1 to 11~~, wherein the granules are agglomerated together by having been melded together.

claim 1
15. A granular thermoplastic elastomer suitable for use in the construction material of ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the granules of thermoplastic elastomer are angular or multi-facet granules.

16. A granular thermoplastic elastomer according to Claim 15, wherein the thermoplastic elastomer is a blend of a major proportion of polypropylene and a minor proportion of an ethylene-propylene copolymer, the blend being without any substantial amount of cross-linking.

claim 1
17. A composition suitable for the preparation of a construction material as claimed in ~~any of Claims 1 to 14~~, the composition comprising:

- (a) a first component comprising a granular thermoplastic elastomer; and
- (b) a second component comprising a binding agent for the granules.

18. A composition according to Claim 17, wherein the binding agent is a polyurethane binder.

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19. A wearing course comprising a laid layer of a construction material as claimed in ^{claim 1} ~~any of claims 1 to 14~~.

20. A wearing course according to Claim 19, which has a thickness in the range 1cm to 10cm, especially 2cm to 6cm.

21. A wearing course according to Claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the construction material has been compacted after laying.

22. A wearing course according to Claim 19, ~~20 or 21~~, which has been laid in direct contact with the ground.

23. A wearing course according to Claim 19, ~~20 or 21~~, wherein said layer is supported by an underlying bulk layer.

24. A wearing course according to Claim 23, wherein the bulk layer comprises a rubber in granular form.

25. A wearing course according to Claim 24, wherein the granules of rubber have been agglomerated by means of a binder.

26. A wearing course according to Claim 23, wherein the bulk layer has a thickness of up to 10cm, especially from 2cm to 6cm.

27. A construction material according to Claim 1, substantially as described herein.

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28. A construction material substantially as described in any of the foregoing Examples.

5 29. A granular thermoplastic elastomer according to Claim 15, substantially as described herein.

30. A granular thermoplastic elastomer as described in any of the foregoing Examples.

10 31. A composition according to Claim 17, substantially as described herein.

15 32. A composition suitable for the preparation of a construction material as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 14, said composition being substantially as described in any of the foregoing Examples.

20 33. A wearing course according to Claim 19, substantially as described herein.

25 34. A wearing course substantially as described in any of the foregoing Examples.

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